

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-20 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 /104 W  
-----125236 270116Z /72

R 261259Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2246  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION USNATO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS MOSCOW 11841

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PARM, SOPN, UN, UR, US  
SUBJECT: SOVIET MEDIA ON VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S SSOD  
SPEECH

1. SOVIET PRESS TREATMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S  
UNSSOD SPEECH HAS BEEN DERISIVE. IZVESTIA OF MAY 25  
ACCUSED THE VICE PRESIDENT OF MAKING "GROUNDLESS"  
ASSERTIONS THAT INFLATION AND INCREASED SOVIET MILITARY  
THREAT EXPLAIN THE GROWTH IN THE U.S. MILITARY BUDGET.  
PRAVDA CORRESPONDENTS CLAIM THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT'S  
SPEECH LEFT "A STRANGE IMPRESSION" ON MANY OBSERVERS,  
AND STATE THAT HE ENGAGED ONLY IN PROPAGANDISTIC  
RHETORIC." THE VICE PRESIDENT EVOKED "SCEPTICAL SMILES"  
WHEN HE STATED THAT THE U.S. MILITARY BUDGET "'HAS NOT  
GROWN IN REAL TERMS' SINCE THE END OF THE 1950'S," AND,  
ACCORDING TO PRAVDA, HIS SPEECH WAS "IN SHARP CONTRAST  
WITH THE CONSTRUCTIVE CHARACTER OF A MAJORITY OF THE  
SPEECHES" AT THE SSOD. FINALLY, BOTH NEWSPAPERS REPORT  
THAT THE PRESIDENT CHOSE NOT TO SPEAK AT THE SSOD,  
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ATTRIBUTING TO "OBSERVERS" THE THOUGHT THAT HE PREFERRED  
TO ADDRESS THE NATO SUMMIT.

2. UNLIKE THE PRESS REPORTS, TASS ENGLISH NOTES THAT  
THE VICE PRESIDENT DID NOTE CURRENT ARMS CONTROL TALKS  
AND DID LIST A NUMBER OF DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS BUT THEN  
GOES ON TO SAY THAT "THESE PRONOUNCEMENTS BY THE VICE

PRESIDENT COULD NOT BE SQUARED IN ANY WAY" WITH HIS  
STATEMENTS THAT THE U.S. AND NATO WILL "CONTINUE BUILDING  
UP THEIR MILITARY POTENTIAL." VREMYA TELEVISION NEWS  
EVENING OF MAY 25 STATED THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT MADE NO  
NEW PROPOSALS IN HIS SPEECH AND AT THE SAME TIME ENGAGED  
IN "DISTORTIONS" OF SOVIET POLICY, ODEMIITHE SOVIET  
THREAT WHEN EVERYONE KNOWS THAT IT IS THE U.S. WHICH IS  
DEVELOPING NEW WEAPONS. VREMYA ALSO STATED THAT THE  
SPEECH DEMONSTRATES THAT THE U.S. WILL CONTINUE ON ITS  
MILITARISTIC COURSE. MATLOCK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, DISARMAMENT, SPEECHES, SESSION (UN SPECIAL)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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